SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

slavic.northwestern.edu

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers a full program of study in Russian language and literature and a range of other courses on the languages, culture, and history of Eastern Europe.

Russian study encompasses a broad discipline that touches on many others. For example, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, and Chekhov probe philosophical, social, political, and psychological issues that are central to the modern experience and fundamental to Western culture. Courses in Russian literature open up the artistry and ideas of this intellectual tradition. All periods of Russian literature are represented, with emphasis on the 19th through 21st centuries.

Majors may choose to concentrate in “Russian Language, Literature and Culture” or “Russian and East European Studies”. Some students seek a deep knowledge of Russian culture and literary tradition, while others are more interested in acquiring international knowledge and language proficiency for use in such fields as government, law, business, or journalism. The major (or minor) may complement study of history, political science, health, or other disciplines. Minors in “Russian and East European Studies” gain a broad understanding of Slavic literature and culture. They may focus on Czech, Russian, or Polish studies with or without a language prerequisite.

The department strongly recommends that students study abroad. Programs take place in Prague, Belgrade, Sarajevo, Krakow, Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Vladimir. Students should consult the undergraduate adviser in the department or an adviser in Undergraduate Learning Abroad (https://www.northwestern.edu/abroad) to learn more about study abroad options.

Programs of Study

- Slavic Languages and Literatures Major (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literatures/slavic-languages-literatures-major)
- Russian and East European Studies Minor (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literatures/russian-east-european-studies-minor)

SLAVIC 101-1 Elementary Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. No prerequisite.

SLAVIC 101-2 Elementary Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 101-3 Elementary Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 102-1 Intermediate Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 101-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 102-2 Intermediate Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 102-3 Intermediate Russian (1 Unit) Russian language and culture. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 105-6 First-Year Seminar (1 Unit) WCAS First-Year Seminar

SLAVIC 106-SA Elementary Czech (1 Unit) Czech language and culture. No prerequisite.

SLAVIC 108-1 Elementary Polish (1 Unit) Polish language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. No prerequisite.

SLAVIC 108-2 Elementary Polish (1 Unit) Polish language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 108-3 Introduction to Polish (1 Unit) Polish language and culture. Basic reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 208-1 Intermediate Polish: Language and Culture (1 Unit) Continuation of 108; reading on topics in Polish culture and society. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 108-3 or consent of the instructor.

SLAVIC 208-2 Intermediate Polish: Language and Culture (1 Unit) Continuation of 108; reading on topics in Polish culture and society. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 208-3 Intermediate Polish: Language and Culture (1 Unit) Continuation of 108; reading on topics in Polish culture and society. Must be taken in sequence.

SLAVIC 210-1 Introduction to Russian Literature (1 Unit) Comprehensive overview of the central prose works and literary movements in 19th-century Russia. 1. Thematic and formal study of major works by Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Turgenev. 2. Tolstoy, Dostoevsky. 3. Turgenev, the late Tolstoy, Chekhov, Bunin. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 210-2 Introduction to Russian Literature (1 Unit) Comprehensive overview of the central prose works and literary movements in 19th-century Russia. 1. Thematic and formal study of major works by Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Turgenev. 2. Tolstoy, Dostoevsky. 3. Turgenev, the late Tolstoy, Chekhov, Bunin. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 210-3 Introduction to Russian Literature (1 Unit) Comprehensive overview of the central prose works and literary movements in 19th-century Russia. 1. Thematic and formal study of major works by Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Turgenev. 2. Tolstoy, Dostoevsky. 3. Turgenev, the late Tolstoy, Chekhov, Bunin. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 211-1 20th-Century Russian Literature (1 Unit) Major works in cultural-historical context, from the revolutions of 1917 through the present. Variable content depending on instructor. Focus on one of the following: Russian modernism in literature, music, film, and visual art; non-conformism in Soviet literature and visual arts (1940s to 1980s); and contemporary Russian culture. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 211-2 20th-Century Russian Literature (1 Unit) Major works in cultural-historical context, from the revolutions of 1917 through the present. Variable content depending on instructor. Russian literature, film, and visual art in the transition from communism to post-communism. Writers examined may include Pasternak, Bulgakov, Solzhenitsyn, and Sinyavsky/Tertz. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 255-0 Slavic Civilizations (1 Unit) Culture, history, language, and literature of the Slavs historically and/or in modern periods. Content
SLAVIC 255-SA Slavic Civilizations (1 Unit)  Culture, history, language, and literature of the Slavs historically and/or in modern periods. Content varies with instructor; may be repeated for credit. Restriction to students participating in NU-sponsored study abroad programs. Historical Studies Distro Area

SLAVIC 261-0 Heart of Europe: Poland in the Twentieth Century (1 Unit)  Study of key developments in Polish history, literature, and thought by way of texts drawn from literature, history, politics, journalism, memoirs, essays, and film. Poland as a microcosm for recent European history and culture. Historical Studies Distro Area

SLAVIC 267-0 Czech Culture: Film, Visual Arts & Music (1 Unit)  Czech culture represented in film and visual arts. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 267-SA Czech Culture (1 Unit)

SLAVIC 278-1 Visual Art in the Context of Russian Culture (1 Unit)  Introduction to the history of Russian art: survey of major trends in Russian visual art in the dual contexts of Russian culture and European visual art. Focus on interconnections among visual arts, literature, and political history. Russian art from the medieval period to the beginning of the 20th century. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 278-2 Visual Art in the Context of Russian Culture (1 Unit)  Introduction to the history of Russian art: survey of major trends in Russian visual art in the dual contexts of Russian culture and European visual art. Focus on interconnections among visual arts, literature, and political history. Russian art of the 20th century.

SLAVIC 302-1 Russian Language and Culture (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Contemporary readings on Russian culture and society. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 302-2 Russian Language and Culture (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Contemporary readings on Russian culture and society. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 302-3 Russian Language & Culture (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Contemporary readings on Russian culture and society. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 303-1 Modern Russian Readings and Language (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Exploration of modern Russian language and culture through readings, video, and film. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 303-2 Modern Russian Readings and Language (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Exploration of modern Russian language and culture through readings, video, and film. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 303-3 Modern Russian Readings and Language (1 Unit)  Conversation, listening comprehension, reading, and composition. Exploration of modern Russian language and culture through readings, video, and film. Combined third-and fourth-year multi-skill course. Prerequisite: SLAVIC 102-3 or consent of language director.

SLAVIC 304-1 Advanced Contemporary and Professional Russian (1 Unit)  Russian for advanced speakers, including heritage speakers. Stress on skills in speaking, reading, and writing in professional and formal environments. Taught entirely in Russian. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: consent of language director.

SLAVIC 304-2 Advanced Contemporary and Professional Russian (1 Unit)  Russian for advanced speakers, including heritage speakers. Stress on skills in speaking, reading, and writing in professional and formal environments. Taught entirely in Russian. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: consent of language director.

SLAVIC 304-3 Advanced Contemporary and Professional Russian (1 Unit)  Russian for advanced speakers, including heritage speakers. Stress on skills in speaking, reading, and writing in professional and formal environments. Taught entirely in Russian. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: consent of language director.

SLAVIC 310-0 Tolstoy (1 Unit)  Tolstoy's artistic and intellectual development through his major fiction. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 311-0 Dostoevsky (1 Unit)  Introduction to Dostoevsky's life and works: Notes from the Underground, Crime and Punishment, Brothers Karamazov. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 313-0 Nabokov (1 Unit)  Vladimir Nabokov's major Russian and American prose, from his émigré years (The Defense, The Gift, and Invitation to a Beheading) to his celebrated English-language works (Lolita; Speak, Memory; and Pale Fire). Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 314-0 Chekhov (1 Unit)  Introduction to the fiction and plays of Anton Chekhov, father of the modern short story. His writing in its Russian cultural context and his influence on English-language drama, fiction, and film. Readings include The Cherry Orchard, The Seagull, Uncle Vania, and short stories. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 322-0 Making a Dictionary: The Northwestern Project (1 Unit)  Creation of an online dictionary of Northwestern jargon, slang, etc. Learning about the connection between language, society, and identity; sociolinguistic fieldwork; lexicography; politics of dictionaries; culture and power of book form vs. digital. LING 363-0 and SLAVIC 322-0 are taught together; may not receive credit for both courses. Social Behavioral Sciences Distro Area

SLAVIC 340-0 History of the Russian Language (1 Unit)  Russian phonology and morphology from Proto-Indo-European to modern Russian. Effects of the changes on the contemporary language.

SLAVIC 341-0 Structure of Modern Russian (1 Unit)  Theories and methods of linguistics as applied to the description of modern Russian. Phonetics, morphology, and other topics. Formal Studies Distro Area

SLAVIC 350-0 Folklore, Music, Poetry (1 Unit)  Traditional folk and religious folklore and poetry: from Biblical and Greek origins through East Slavic, Russian, and Western European works. Forms, literary and political implications, Russian and Western European poetic and rhythmic interrelations. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 358-1 Polish for Advanced and Native Speakers (1 Unit)  Polish for advanced speakers, including those who grew up in the United States. Stress on advanced levels of reading and writing as well as speaking.
Taught entirely in Polish. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: consent of language director. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 358-2 Polish for Advanced and Native Speakers (1 Unit) Polish for advanced speakers, including those who grew up in the United States. Stress on advanced levels of reading and writing as well as speaking. Taught entirely in Polish. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: consent of language director. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 359-1 Russian Prose (1 Unit) Selected works of Russian masters. Early 20th century. Russian modernist prose and socialist realism. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 359-2 Russian Prose (1 Unit) Selected works of Russian masters. 1940s to the present. Content varies; may be repeated for credit. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 360-0 Survey of 19th Century Russian Poetry (1 Unit) Introduction to the wealth of Russian 19th century lyric poetry and basic techniques for its study: Pushkin, Baratynsky, Lermontov, Tyutchev, Fet. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 361-0 Survey of 20th Century Russian Poetry (1 Unit) Introduction to the major currents of Russian 20th century lyric poetry and basic techniques for its study: Tsvetaeva, Mayakovsky, Khlebnikov, Blok, Akhmatova, Mandelshtam, Pasternak, Brodsky. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 367-1 Russian Film (1 Unit) Development of Russian film and film theory from the silent era to the 1980s. Golden Age of Russian cinema (Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Vertov, Protazanov, Vasiliev brothers, Dovzhenko, socialist realism). Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 367-2 Russian Film (1 Unit) Development of Russian film and film theory from the silent era to the 1980s. Russian film since World War II (more socialist realism, neorealism, Tarkovsky, Paradjanov, Abuladze; criticism and semiotic theory). Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 368-0 Andrei Tarkovsky's Aesthetics and World Cinema (1 Unit) Major films of Tarkovsky and of Russian and non-Russian directors whose work is related to his (Eisenstein, Wenders, Bergman, Kurosawa). Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 369-0 200 Years of Russian Drama (1 Unit) Dramatic and theatrical traditions of Russia from the 19th century through the rise of the Moscow Art Theater and Russian modernism to contemporary theater. Dramas by Gogol, Ostrovsky, Gorky, Chekhov, Blok, Mayakovsky, Vampilov, and Petrushevskaya; productions of Stanislavsky, Meierkhold, Evreinov. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 390-0 Literature and Politics in Central and Eastern Europe (1 Unit) Literature has played a central role in defining the political agendas in central and eastern Europe. Course concerns the interaction of literature with cultural and political history. Content varies. May be repeated for credit with consent of director of undergraduate studies. Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 393-0 Prague: City of Cultures, City of Conflict (1 Unit) Examination of the cultural, political, and social transformation of Prague from the 19th century to the present. Cosmopolitan Prague, communist Prague, and capitalist Prague. Historical Studies Distro Area Interdisciplinary Distro - See Rules (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext) Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 396-0 Topics in Literature and Arts (1 Unit) Content varies. May be repeated for credit with consent of director of undergraduate studies. Literature Fine Arts Distro Area

SLAVIC 399-0 Independent Study (1 Unit) For majors selected as candidates for departmental honors; for other advanced students with consent of instructor.

SLAVIC 399-SA Independent Study (1 Unit) For majors selected as candidates for departmental honors; for other advanced students with consent of instructor.